

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for operating a distributed computer network comprising a plurality of distributed computers, on one of the computers there being at least one component of a computer program, a component which can run on the microprocessor of the computer, and to operate the computer the at least one component being accessed from a collocated client, or a remote client, the at least one component is accessed from the collocated client via a local gate of the at least one component if the collocated client is filed on the same computer and runs within a same execution environment as the at least one component, and otherwise the at least one component is accessed from the remote client via a remote gate of the at least one component.

2. A process for operating the computer of a distributed computer network comprising the computer and a plurality of distributed computers, on the computer there being at least one component of a computer program, a component which can run on the microprocessor of the computer, and to operate the computer the at least one component is accessed from a collocated client or a remote client, wherein the at least one component is accessed from the collocated client, via a local gate of the at least one component, if the at least one component is filed on the same computer and runs within a same execution environment as the collocated client, and otherwise the at least one component is accessed from the remote client, via a remote gate of the at least one component.

3. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein from the at least one component, at least one other component is accessed via a local gate of the at least one other component, if the at least one other component is filed on the same computer and runs within the same execution environment as the at least one component and otherwise from the at least one component, the at least one other component is accessed via a remote gate, of the at least one other component.

4. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the remote gate of the at least one component is accessed via a proxy, the proxy implementing a same interface as the local gate.

5 5. The process as claimed in claim 3, wherein the remote gate of the at least one component, is used for transformation of a parameter or a result when services or functionalities of the at least one component have parameters or results which themselves represent a reference to the at least one other component and the at least one other component is located locally with respect to the at least one component, but remotely with respect to the client.

6. The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein the proxy is used for transformation of a parameter or a result when services or functionalities of the at least one component have parameters or results which themselves represent a reference to another proxy and the at least one other component, is located remotely with reference to the at least one component, but collocated with reference to the client.

7. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein to access the at least one component, first a local naming and directory service is accessed and from it a reference to the at least one component to be invoked is transferred, the reference referring to a local gate of the at least one component if the at least one component to be invoked is a collocated component, and the reference refers via a proxy to a remote gate of the at least one component if the at least one component to be invoked is a remote component.

8. The process as claimed in claim 7, wherein to access the at least one component, first the local naming and directory service is accessed and from it a reference to a factory (19) of the at least one component to be invoked is transferred, the reference referring to the local gate of the factory if the factory and the at least one component to be invoked are

collocated, and the reference is packed into a proxy refers to the remote gate of the factory when the factory and the at least one component to be invoked are remote, and another reference to the at least one component to be invoked is transferred by the factory, the at least one other reference referring to a local gate of the at least one component, if the factory and the at least one component to be invoked are collocated, and the other reference is packed into a proxy, refers to a remote gate, of the at least one component if the factory and the at least one component to be invoked are remote.

9. A computer program which can run on a microprocessors of a plurality of computers of a distributed computer network, comprising at least one component, with at least one gate for accessing the at least one component, from a collocated client, which is filed on a same computer, and runs within a same execution environment as the at least one component, or from a remote client, which is filed on another computer and runs within an execution environment other than the at least one component, wherein the at least one component has a local gate for access to the at least one component from the collocated client and a remote gate for access to the at least one component from the remote client.

10. A storage element, selected from a read-only memory, a random access memory, or a flash memory for a computer of a distributed computer network on which at least one component of a computer program which can run on the microprocessors of the computer of the computer network is stored, the at least one component having at least one gate for accessing the at least one component from a collocated client which is filed on a same computer and runs within the same execution environment as the at least one component, or from a remote client which is filed on another computer and runs within an execution environment other than the at least one component, wherein the at least one

component has a local gate for access to the at least one component from the collocated client and a remote gate for access to the at least one component from the remote client.

5 11. A computer of a distributed computer network with
a storage element, selected from a read-only memory, a random
access memory, or a flash memory on which at least one component
of a computer program which can run on the microprocessors of the
computers of the computer network is stored, the at least one
10 component having at least one gate for accessing the at least one
component from a collocated client which is filed on the same
computer and runs within a same execution environment as the at
least one component, or from a remote client which is filed on
another computer and runs within an execution environment other
than the at least one component, wherein the at least one
component has a local gate for access to the at least one
component from the collocated client and a remote gate for access
to the at least one component from the remote client.

20 12. A distributed computer network comprising several
computers with one storage element each, selected from a read-
only memory, a random access memory, or a flash memory on which
at least one component of a computer program which can run on the
microprocessors of the computers of the computer network is
25 stored, the at least one component having at least one gate for
accessing the at least one component from a collocated client
which is filed on the same computer and runs within the same
execution environment as the at least one component, or from a
remote client which is filed on another computer and runs within
30 an execution environment other than the at least one component,
wherein the at least one component has a local gate for access
to the at least one component from the collocated client and a
remote gate for access to the at least one component from the
remote client.